

Washington State Patrol Media Release

Chief Lowell Porter



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Washington State Patrol Granted Fifth Reaccreditation Award

Chief Lowell Porter announced today that the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. (CALEA) has granted the Washington State Patrol its fifth reaccreditation award. The WSP was first accredited in 1988 and has maintained accredited status since that time.

"I could not be prouder of the men and women of the State Patrol," explained Chief Porter. "Keeping on top of the CALEA process is the work of all WSP employees. CALEA standards help to keep us up on the best practices in law enforcement. This reaccreditation is a tribute to our entire staff," he added.

In order to maintain its accredited status, the Patrol must undergo a thorough performance audit by a team of independent assessors every three years. Unlike conventional audits, the CALEA assessment process evaluates all of the fundamental law enforcement and management activities of the Patrol in comparison with nationally recognized standards. Based upon the report of the independent assessment team, CALEA Commissioners determined to grant the Patrol with a reaccreditation award.

The on-site assessment took place from December 7-11, 2003. Three CALEA-trained assessors representing the Tampa Police Department, Illinois State Police, and Virginia State Police spent time reviewing documentation files, interviewing employees about department procedures, and visiting district offices throughout the state.

At the CALEA Spring Conference in Pasadena, CA, this past weekend, Chief Porter spoke in front of a panel of Commissioners and fielded their questions about the WSP's practices and procedures. Accreditation Manager Gene McDaniel and his assistant, Ms. Kimberly Bush, were also on hand to represent the department. At a formal ceremony, Commissioners from CALEA presented WSP representatives with the official reaccreditation award.

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